

PLAN TO CONSERVE OUR NATURAL RESOURCES



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

WILL FORM BODY
WITH PLANS FOR
GOOD OF NATION

(Continued From First Page.)

industries multiply, nor the hidden wealth of the earth be developed for the benefit of mankind.

Growth of Resources.

The President traced the marvelous growth of the United States, and continued: Such was the degree of progress, that which civilized mankind had attained when this nation began its career. It is almost impossible for us in this day to realize how little our revolutionary ancestors knew of the great store of natural resources whose discovery and development have been the basis of the growth and greatness of this nation, and how little they required to take from this store in order to satisfy their needs.

Since then our knowledge and use of the resources of the present territory of the United States have increased a hundred-fold. Indeed, the growth of this nation by leaps and bounds makes one of the most striking and important chapters in the history of the world. Its growth has been due to the rapid development and use of the resources of the earth, and that it should be said to the rapid destruction of natural resources. Nature has supplied to us in the United States, and still supplies to us, more kinds of resources in a more lavish degree than has ever been the case at any other time or with any other people. Our position with respect to the resources of the earth is unique. We have achieved our position, but we are more, and not less, dependent upon the resources of the earth than at any previous time of history.

Our fathers, though they knew so little of the resources of the country, exercised a wise foresight in reference thereto. Washington clearly saw that the perpetuity of the States could only be secured by union, and that the only feasible basis of union was a common interest in the development and use of their natural resources. Accordingly, he helped to secure a scheme of commercial development, and by his influence an Interstate Waterways Commission was appointed by Virginia and Maryland.

Steam and Electricity.

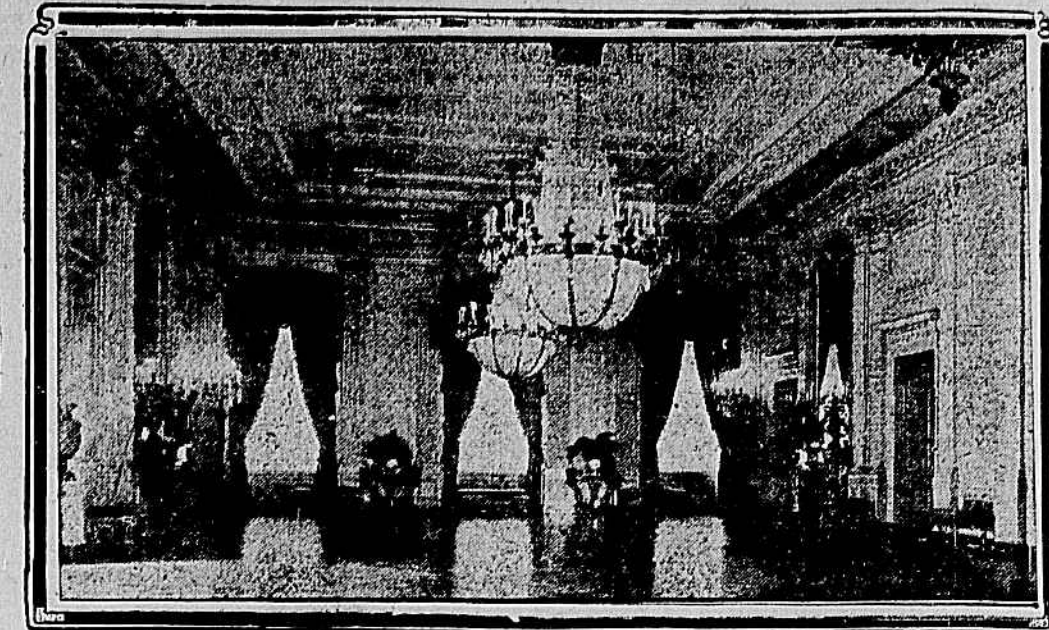
Since the days when the Constitution was adopted, steam and electricity have revolutionized the industrial world. Nowhere has the revolution been so great as in the case of the United States. The utilization of mineral fuels and alloys have given us the lead over all other nations in the production of power. The vast wealth of lumber in our forests, the richness of our soils and mines, the discovery of gold and mineral oils, combined with the efficiency of our transportation, have made the conditions of our life unparalleled in comfort and convenience.

The steadily increasing drain on these natural resources has promoted to an extraordinary degree the complexity of our industrial and social life. Moreover, this unexampled development has had a determining effect upon the character and opinions of our people. The demand for efficiency in the great task has given us vigor, effectiveness, decision and power, and a capacity for achievement which in its own lines has never yet been matched. So great and so rapid has been our material growth that there has been a tendency to lag behind in spiritual and moral growth; but that is not the subject upon which I speak to you to-day.

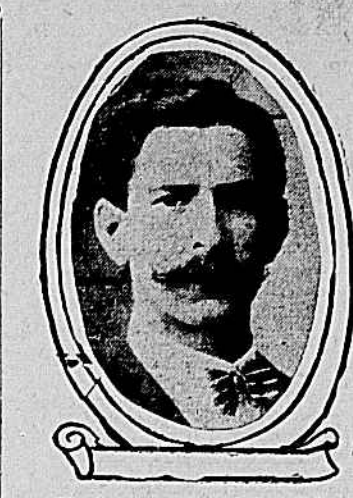
The Nation's Wealth.

After giving a brief epitome of the nation's wealth, the President said: We have become great because of the lavish use of our resources and we have just reason to be proud of our growth. But the time has come to inquire seriously what will happen when our forests are gone, when the coal, the iron, the oil, and the gas are exhausted, when the soils shall have been still further impoverished and washed into the streams, polluting the rivers, denuding the fields, and obstructing navigation. These questions do not relate only to the next century or to the next generation. It is time for us now as a nation to exercise the same reasonable foresight in dealing with our great natural resources that would be shown by any prudent man in conserving and wisely using the property which contains the assurance of well-being for himself and his children.

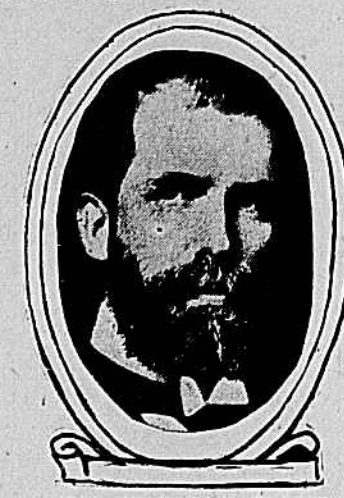
The natural resources I have enumerated can be divided into two sharply distinguished classes according as they are or are not capable of renewal. Mines if used must necessarily



EAST ROOM OF WHITE HOUSE WHERE CONFERENCE SITS.

HON. CLAUDE A. SWANSON,
Governor of Virginia.

JOHN MITCHELL, JR.

HON. CHARLES E. HUGHES,
Governor of New York.

be exhausted. The minerals do not and cannot renew themselves. Therefore in dealing with the coal, the oil, the gas, the iron, the metals generally, that we can do is to try to see that they are wisely used. Their exhaustion is certain to come in time.

Soils, Forests, Waterways.

The second class of resources consists of those which cannot only be used in such manner as to leave them undiminished for our children, but can actually be improved by wise use. The soil, the forests, the waterways come in this category. In dealing with mineral resources, man is able to improve on nature only by putting the resources to a beneficial use which in the end exhausts them; but in dealing with the soil and its products man can improve on nature by compelling the resources to renew and even reconstruct themselves in such manner as to serve increasingly beneficial uses. While the living waters can be so controlled as to multiply their benefits.

Neither the primitive man nor the pioneer was aware of any duty to posterity in dealing with the renewable resources. When the American settler felled the forests, he felt that there was plenty of forest left for the sons who came after him. When he exhausted the soil of his farm he felt that his son could go West and take up another. So it was with his immediate successors. When the settler moved from the farm to the city, the neighboring river he thought only of using the railway rather than boats for moving his produce and supplies.

Now all this is changed. In the average the son of the farmer of to-day must make his living on his father's farm. There is no room for him to go. This is the father who exercises wisdom. No wise use of a farm exhausts its fertility. So with the forests. We are now taking to the mouth of the mighty Father of Waters. But all these various uses of our natural resources are so closely connected that they should be co-ordinated and should be treated as part of one coherent plan and not in haphazard and piecemeal fashion.

Waterways' Commission. It is largely because of this that I appointed the Waterways Commission last year and that I have sought to perpetuate its work. I wish to take this opportunity to express in briefest fashion my acknowledgments to all the members of the commission. At great personal sacrifice of time and effort they have rendered us the service for which we cannot be too grateful. Especial credit is due to the initiative, the energy, the devotion to duty and the far-sightedness of Clifford Pinchot, to whom I owe so much of the progress we have already made in handling this matter of the co-ordination and conservation of our natural resources. If it had not been for him this convention neither would nor could have been called.

We are coming to recognize as never before the right of the nation to guard its own future in the essential matter of natural resources. In the past we have admitted the right of the individual to injure the future of the republic for his own present profit. The

time has come for a change. As a people we have the right and the duty, second to none other but the right and duty of obeying the moral law, of refraining and doing justice to protect ourselves and our children against the wasteful development of our natural resources, whether that waste is caused by the actual destruction of such resources or by making them impossible of development hereafter.

Must Preserve Them. Any light-thinking, rather earnestly desiring and striving to leave his son both an untarnished name and a reasonable equipment for the struggle of life. So this nation as a whole should earnestly desire and strive to leave to the next generation the national honor unstained and the national resources unexhausted. There are signs that both the nation and the States are waking to a realization of this great truth.

National Efficiency. The President quotes a number of decisions on this question, and concludes:

These decisions reach the root of the idea of conservation of our resources in the interests of our people. Finally, let us remember that the conservation of our natural resources, though the gravest problem of to-day,

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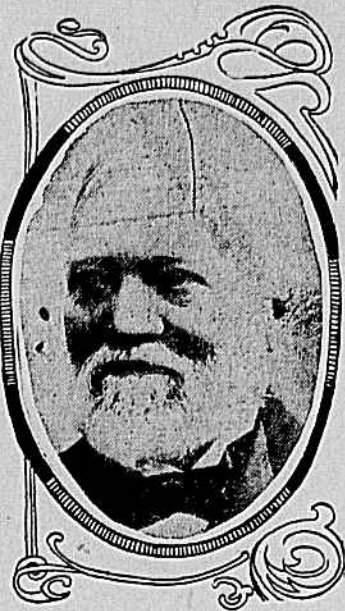
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ANDREW CARNEGIE.

the prediction was made of their ultimate adoption.

Predict Early Exhaustion. Dr. I. C. White, of West Virginia, added expert knowledge and prediction on the subject of coal and iron. In his speech, he predicted the exhaustion of the Pittsburg coal supply in ninety-three years, and the West Virginia fields in practically the same time.

John Mitchell, former head of the United Mine Workers' Association, estimated that fully 25 per cent of the coal in the mines already developed had been wasted in mining, and a much greater percentage in use. Without such waste, which he believed might be overcome, the supply of coal

would last 2,000 years instead of 200 years as predicted. He concluded with a plea for more attention to mine operations, one of whom he said is killed and several injured with the mining of every 15,000 tons of coal.

The Two Problems. Governor Johnson, of Minnesota, made a lively talk, in which he took issue with Mr. Carnegie's statement that wasteful methods prevailed in iron mining in the Lake Superior region. Two problems, he said, confronted the conference—one was the conservation of the natural resources, the other the true development of industry. One, he said, was as great as the other.

Technical information was next supplied the conference by Dr. C. R. Van Hise, of the University of Michigan, and John Hayes Hammond, a mining engineer.

The climax of the afternoon session was the speech of Secretary of State Elihu Root, who was received with great enthusiasm.

"Forty-four sovereign States are represented here to-day," said Mr. Root. "All are sovereign here upon the invitation of the executive of the sovereign United States. No one can overestimate the importance of maintaining each and every one of the sovereignties of the States, and no one can overestimate the importance of maintaining the sovereignty of the United States. The nation cannot perform the function of the States' sovereignty. If it were to undertake to perform those functions it would break down; the machinery would not be able to perform the duty. The pressure is already very heavy upon the national machinery to do its work."

"I feel deeply impressed with the idea that the forty-six sovereign States, in the performance of their duties of government, are lagging behind the stage of development which the other side of the earth has reached. If you look at the international life of the world you will see that the correspondence between the nations is continually increasing—correspondence not in the letter-writing sense, but the intercommunication and understanding about the things they shall do in concert for the benefit of all their people. Now, the States, in the exercise of their sovereignties, in the exercise of the powers reserved to them, rest under the same kind of duty—a duty that forbids the people of any State to live unto itself alone."

The Constitution of the United States prohibits the States from making any agreement with each other without the consent of Congress, but you can make any number of agreements with the consent of Congress. It is high time that the sovereign States of the Union should begin to perform their duties, with reference not only to their own individual local interests, but reference to the common good. I regard this meeting as marking a new departure—the beginning of an era in which the States of the Union will exercise their reserved powers upon a higher plane of patriotism and love of country than has ever existed before."

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The status of all delegates, whether Governors or their special assistants, was settled by the adoption of a motion that all persons invited to the conference have equal privileges.

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The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

Chas. H. Fletcher.
In Use For Over 30 Years.

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Dye and Nothing Else.

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Maximum Spread
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B. P. Vaden, Manchester, Va.

DEATHS

CASCIE—Died, at her residence, 411 South Pine Street, after a brief illness, Mrs. SALINA CASCIE, aged fifty-four years. She leaves a husband and ten children—six daughters and four sons.
Funeral notice—later.

KEELAND—Died, in Lexington, Va., in her fifty-fifth year, MARGARET W. KEELAND.
Funeral at Hollywood Cemetery FRI. MORNING.

MARSH—Died, yesterday afternoon, in the eleventh year of his age, CHARLES W. MARSH, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Marsh, 2205 East Marshall Street.
The funeral will be held THIS (Thursday) AFTERNOON at 5:30 o'clock, from Christ Episcopal Church. Interment in Oakwood.

FUNERAL NOTICE

BARNES—The funeral of Mr. E. L. BARNES, 608 South Belvidere, who was drowned on January 8, 1908, will take place from Pine Street Baptist Church at 4 P. M. TO-DAY.

For the
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Days
Paint for the House

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Lawn Mowers,
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Wire Fencing,
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Building Materials

Everything in Hardware

Baldwin & Brown (Inc.)
1557 East Main.

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Low Prices.
WOODWARD & SON, Richmond, Va.

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FURNITURE
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MATTINGS
OIL CLOTHS
LINOLEUMS
RUGS
COUCHES ETC.
"DIRECT ACTION" GAS RANGES - THE BEST

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sent to market is uniform in quality, the richest, purest, freshest and best that can possibly be made. That's why it's highest priced and yet 500,000 pounds sold in 1907. All we could supply.

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AYER & MCKINNEY,
CHESTNUT AND WATER STS.,
PHILADELPHIA.

For Sale by
R. L. CHRISTIAN & CO., 816 E. Main St.,
RICHMOND, VA.

THE FUTURE OF THE NATION

"Let us remember that the conservation of our natural resources, though the gravest problem of to-day, it yet but part of another and greater problem to which this nation is not yet awake, but to which it will awake in time, and with

which it must hereafter grapple. If it is to live—the problem of national efficiency, the patriotic duty of insuring the safety and continuance of the nation. When the people of the United States consciously undertake to rate themselves as citizens, and the nation and the States in their several

sphere, to the highest pitch of excellence in private, State and national life, and to do this because it is the first of all the duties of true patriotism, then, and not till then, the future of this nation, in quality and time, will be assured."—The President in address to Governor's Conference.